HUMANITIES/LIBERAL STUDIES

What can I do with this major?

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

EDUCATION

Higher Education:

Teaching

Research

Administration

Admissions

Financial Aid

Academic Advising and Support Services

Development

Alumni Affairs

International Education and Study Abroad

Student Life, e.g. Residence Life, Student

Activities, Orientation, Leadership, Greek

Life. Multicultural Affairs

Information/Library Science

Primary and Secondary Education:

Teaching

Administration

Library Sciences

Community Education:

Literacy

English as a Second Language (ESL)

GED Preparation

Tutoring

Universities and colleges

Academic support programs, e.g., Educational Advancement Program, Upward Bound

School and community libraries

K-12 schools, public and private

Head Start programs

Private learning centers

Test preparation organizations

Adult education programs, e.g., those focusing on **GED** preparation

Nonprofit organizations including those promoting

literacy, e.g., VISTA

Language institutes, local and abroad Museums

Earn a Ph.D. to teach and research at four-year institutions. Some two-year institutions may accept a master's degree. The interdisciplinary nature of liberal arts and humanities is good preparation for advanced education in a variety of fields.

Obtain a master's degree in student affairs, higher education administration, or library/information science to prepare for those fields.

If interested in K-12 teaching, fulfill requirements for certification. This may involve a double major or a minor. Research alternative paths to certification such as Teach for America and other similar programs.

Get involved in leadership roles on campus including peer mentor, resident advisor, orientation leader. or tutor.

Volunteer with community organizations.

Join related professional associations as a student member.

Develop strong communication, public speaking, and foreign language skills. Build cultural competence.

Secure strong recommendations from faculty, and maintain a high grade point average. Assist a professor with research or take an independent study class to develop research skills.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

ADVOCACY

Domestic and International Advocacy

Humanitarian Services

Development:

Economic

Community

Housing

Disaster/Disease Relief

HIV/AIDS Advocacy

Policy Development

Program Administration

Education

Volunteer Coordination

Grant Writing

Fundraising/Development

Research

Community action agencies
Nonprofit organizations
Private voluntary organizations
Faith based organizations (FBO's)
International aid and relief organizations

Non-governmental Organizations (NGO's), e.g.,

International Red Cross

Federal government agencies with an international focus, e.g., Peace Corps, USAID or community assistance focus, e.g., Americorps

State and local government agencies Research organizations

Gain experience through extensive volunteering or by completing an internship; these experiences are critical to finding full-time positions.

Participate in an international service learning experience or church-led mission trip.

Get involved with cultural events or organizations on campus.

Take additional courses in social work, global studies, or other relevant areas.

Develop excellent research, writing, communication, and organizational skills. Learn how to motivate individuals and groups.

Research organizations' values to find a good fit with yours. It is critical that you are knowledgeable about and committed to the work you're going to do.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Counseling

Psychotherapy

Mental Health Services

Case Management

Programming

Community Relations

Fundraising/Development

Administration

Mental health institutions Hospitals and clinics

Residential treatment facilities

Private and group practice

Correctional institutions

Federal, state, or local government, including: Department of Human Services

Organizations that aid immigrants, migrant workers, and refugees or focus on cultural issues

Youth organizations and camps, e.g., the Y, Boys and Girls Clubs

Nonprofit and social services organizations including: United Way, Goodwill Industries, Salvation Army

Church-based programs

Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, social work, or child and family studies.

Obtain a graduate degree in psychology, counseling, or social work for increased counseling opportunities or advancement into administrative work.

Gain essential practical experience through parttime or summer jobs and internships.

Volunteer with organizations that assist people of diverse backgrounds.

Participate in training opportunities, e.g., suicide prevention or crisis hotline response.

Acquire knowledge of government and community resources available for those in need.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

MEDIA AND ARTS

Journalism

Creative Writing

Freelance Writing

Copy Writing

Editing

Research and Analysis

Broadcasting:

Television

Radio

Media Sales

Museum Work

Arts Programming

Art Sales

Fundraising/Development

Newspapers

Magazines

Broadcast media companies including television

and movie industry

Radio stations

Foreign news agencies

Trade, professional, or consumer publications

Internet marketing sites

Advertising agencies

Publishing houses

Large corporations

Museums

Galleries

Organizations and centers devoted to the promotion

of the arts

Smithsonian Institution

Self-employed, freelance

Study a second field such as journalism, English, or broadcasting to prepare for a career in media.

For positions in the arts, consider a minor in art history. Plan to pursue a relevant graduate degree such as museum studies.

Write for campus publications such as college newspapers, magazines, or department/program newsletters. Work at campus radio or television stations.

Use your interests and communication skills to write about topics of interest for specific publications, e.g., local sport magazines.

Intern with a publishing house, magazine, radio or television station depending upon area of interest.

Create a portfolio of writing samples, especially those that have been published. For other areas, create a website or digital portfolio to promote skills to potential employers.

Seek opportunities for recognition and networking through writing contests and freelance writing submissions.

Become familiar with the proposal and submission process involved in freelance writing.

LAW AND GOVERNMENT

Law:

Corporate Practice

Public Interest Law Civil Law

Lobbying

Government Relations

Elected or Appointed Leadership

Public Policy

Research

Intelligence

Campaign Management

Special Interest Advocacy Program Administration Law firms

Corporate legal departments

Public defenders offices

District attorneys

Public interest groups

Civil rights organizations

Legal aid

Sole practitioner

Government agencies

Lobbying groups

Obtain the J.D. for law positions or an advanced degree in public administration, public policy, or international relations for government positions.

Supplement curriculum with relevant courses to prepare for law school.

Participate in activities that develop strong debate and public speaking skills such as mock trial.

Get involved with the pre-law society on campus.

Gain relevant experience through jobs or internships with law firms, government agencies, or mediation centers.

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AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

LAW CONTINUED

Maintain a high grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations.

Prepare for and take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).

Apply for federal government internship programs while in school.

The Foreign Service requires passage of the Foreign Service Exam, after obtaining a master's degree or significant work experience.

BUSINESS

Financial Services and Banking
Management
Customer Service
Sales and Marketing
Advertising and Public Relations
Human Resources
Training and Development
Equity and Diversity Functions
International Business
Importing/Exporting
Travel and Tourism
Consulting

Public and private corporations in various industries including:

Banks and financial institutions

Insurance companies

Retail stores

Hotels and restaurants

Consumer goods manufacturers

Multinational businesses

Staffing agencies

Consulting firms

Market research firms

Public relations agencies

Travel agencies and tour operators Convention and visitors' bureaus Double major or minor in business.

Gain business experience through internships or part-time and summer jobs.

Join campus organizations or professional societies and seek leadership roles.

Understand the skills employers' desire and be prepared to demonstrate them, such as communication (oral and written), computer, interpersonal, leadership, and teamwork.

Conduct informational interviews with professionals to learn more about career fields.

Earn an MBA or a graduate degree in another area of interest for more advanced opportunities.

When job searching, seek employers interested in hiring "any major."

For international assignments, plan to start in U.S. based positions and gain experience with the company/industry. Usually more seasoned employees are given international assignments.

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	AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES	

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Liberal studies and humanities provide an interdisciplinary background that helps students develop analytical, critical thinking, and writing skills while gaining knowledge about American and foreign cultures and histories.
- When paired with a major in another field, humanities can enhance the employability of a student because of a deeper understanding of cultural and historical backgrounds and analytical thinking, writing, and communication skills.
- Because liberal studies and humanities are broad-based, interdisciplinary majors, it is important to develop skills relevant to targeted fields through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experiences.
- These majors are excellent candidates for a number of graduate school options because of their broad liberal arts background as well as specific interests that may set them apart from other students. For those wishing to pursue graduate education, maintain a high GPA, establish relationships with faculty to secure strong recommendations, and gain experience through volunteer, work, or research opportunities.